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Letter dated 12 December 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring the following to your attention with regard to the United States National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) of November 2007, which clearly shows that the long-standing allegations of the United States of America against the nuclear programme of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been entirely groundless.

The NIE report, which has reversed some of its own previous conclusions — made in 2005 — against Iran's peaceful nuclear programme, attests to the fact that the very pretexts by which Iran's nuclear programme was referred to the Security Council have been, from the outset, flawed and unfounded. Moreover, the report has exposed the past attempts of the United States to distort intelligence to pursue its politically motivated ends with regard to Iran's peaceful nuclear programme. It also demonstrates that the United States has been engaged in a systematic and relentless fear-mongering campaign in relation to a so-called "nuclear weapons programme" of Iran, which has been simply an illusion and has never existed, in order to deliberately mislead the Security Council and push it to take unlawful actions against Iran. It is noteworthy that, in the wake of the said report, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) stressed that Iran has been "vindicated in saying it has not been working on a weapons programme".

I wish to make it clear that the NIE report contains certain baseless allegations, including, among others, its fictitious supposition that Iran had been working on a so-called "nuclear weapons programme" before 2003, which are totally unfounded and which we categorically reject. Iran's nuclear programme has been, is and will remain absolutely peaceful. This position of Iran has also been confirmed by the IAEA reports, which have found no evidence or indication that any military nuclear programme has ever existed in our country. The IAEA has stressed on numerous occasions that "the Agency has not seen any diversion of nuclear materials to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices" in Iran. Such allegations of the

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NIE report have also been rejected by some permanent members of the Security Council in the past, and also in the aftermath of the release of the NIE report.

Numerous IAEA reports, particularly the most recent one, together with the said NIE report as well as various assertions and statements made by international figures and some members of the Security Council, all testify that Iran neither had any military nuclear programme in the past nor does it possess any such a programme at present. In view of all these assertions and reports, there has never been any justification for the involvement of the Security Council in this issue, and therefore, the measures taken by the Council thus far lack any legal basis.

As it has been time and again stressed by various Iranian officials, Iran's nuclear programme has been and remains under the full monitoring of IAEA. Iran has thus far taken various essential steps and has exercised a great deal of goodwill and indulgence in its cooperation with IAEA, and has taken important confidence-building measures which go even far beyond its treaty obligations. Iran will continue its constructive cooperation with the Agency as the sole competent body to deal with this issue. Iran's cooperation with IAEA according to the workplan concluded between the two sides in August 2007, is advancing in a positive, timely and satisfactory manner and, as a result, some of the most important outstanding issues have already been resolved and others are to be discussed with a view to their final resolution. All Iranian nuclear activities, including enrichment, are carried out according to the IAEA statute, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the comprehensive safeguards agreement, and are under the full and continuous monitoring of the Agency. Such a robust cooperation on the part of Iran has led to the Agency's constant conclusion that no indication of diversion has been seen in Iran's peaceful nuclear activities.

In light of the above, the time has come for the Security Council to put an end to its unlawful consideration of Iran's nuclear issue and to send the dossier back to its technical and competent forum, namely IAEA. The Council should allow the Agency to perform its functions free from any pressure.

Unquestionably, any further involvement by the Security Council in this regard will have no justification and will only complicate the situation and undermine the credibility and authority of IAEA.

I would appreciate if you could circulate the present letter as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 87, Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad **Khazaee**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative